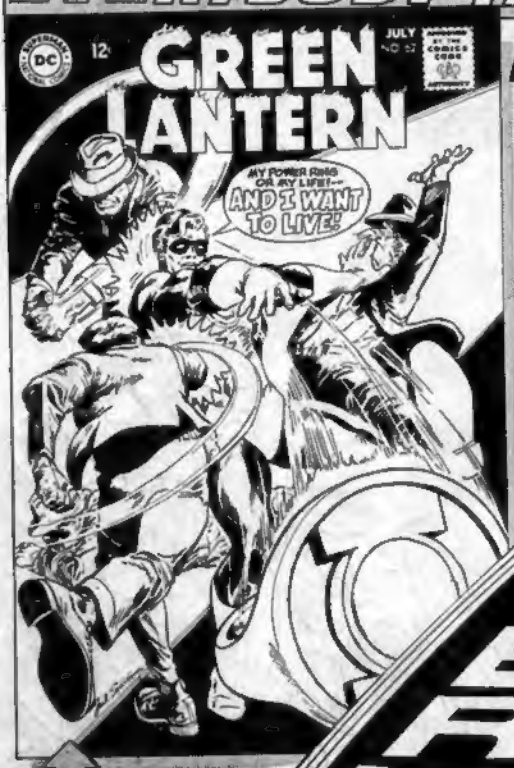
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
12¢
ACTION COMICS
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
JULY
NO. 365
IN SPLIT-SECONDS MY SPACE-COFFIN WILL SPEED INTO THE HOTTEST SUN IN THE UNIVERSE! GOOD-BYE LOIS... LANA... LORI! ...SUPERGIRL!
THE SADDEST STORY EVER TOLD...
"SUPERMAN'S FUNERAL!"

# EVERYBODY HAS Problems...




BUT WHO WOULD YOU SAY HAS MORE...

GREEN LANTERN

OR

SUPERMAN?

ON SALE... MAY 28th

ON SALE... MAY 7th

SUPERMAN
JULY
NO. 208
THE UNDERWORLD TRICKED ME INTO WEARING THIS COLLAR... BUT I DON'T DARE REMOVE IT!
BLEEP!
BLEEP!
BLEEP!
THE BLEEPS FROM SUPERMAN'S COLLAR SHOW HE IS OVER PARIS! THIS TRACKER'S BETTER THAN A BLOODHOUND! NOW THE SUPER-SAP CAN NEVER HIDE FROM US!
HOW THE MOB BELLED SUPERMAN LIKE A CAT!

YOU BE THE JUDGE!

...AFTER YOU READ THEM!

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SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
MEMBERS OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE... LET US BOW OUR HEADS IN SORROW... TO HONOR OUR GALLANT COMRADE, SUPERMAN.. WHO GAVE HIS LIFE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST EVIL!
BATMAN CRYING... THAT'S ONE FOR THE BOOKS! GULP! I'M ALL CHOKED UP MYSELF!
IN HONOR OF SUPERMAN
YES, THE WHOLE WORLD IS BOWED IN SORROW! ALL EARTH GRIEVES THE PASSING OF THE MIGHTY SUPERMAN!
YOU THINK THIS IS A HOAX? A GAG? A PUT-ON? WE WISH IT WERE--BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT THIS IS THE HEARTBREAKING TRAGEDY OF...
"SUPERMAN'S FUNERAL!"

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ONE TRAGIC DAY, AS THE FLAGS OF THE UNITED NATIONS FLY AT HALF STAFF...
VROOSH
THERE IT IS NOW--SUPERMAN'S SPACE-BIER, TAKING HIS DYING BODY AWAY FROM THE EARTH HE LOVED!
SUPERMAN... LEAVING US FOREVER! THIS IS THE SADDEST DAY IN HISTORY!
AS THE GRIEVING WORLD TRACKS THE PATH OF THE SPACE-COFFIN...
HE'S PASSING THE ORBIT OF PLUTO, THE FARTHEST POINT IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM!
HIS DESTINATION IS FLAMMBRON, THE HOTTEST SUN IN THE UNIVERSE! THAT'S WHERE SUPERMAN WANTS TO BE CREMATED!
TO THINK THAT HIS INVULNERABLE BODY COULD BE CONQUERED BY MICROSCOPIC BACTERIA!
IT WAS SUPERMAN'S ARCH-FOE, LEX LUTHOR, WHO INFECTED HIM WITH VIRUS X, THE LEPROSY OF KRYPTON! DEATH WOULD BE TOO GOOD FOR THAT FIEND!
AND AS THE DYING HERO CONTINUES HIS LAST JOURNEY...
I WORE THIS MASK TO SPARE MY FRIENDS THE HORROR OF SEEING HOW THE LEPROSY AFFECTED ME!
BUT THERE'S NO NEED FOR IT NOW! I'M GOING TO MY DEATH!
LATER, FAR ACROSS THE SPACE-GULFS, WHERE SATELLITE SENTRIES GUARD A REMOTE WORLD...
ORBITAL OUTPOST III TO PLANET KNORR! UNKNOWN SPACECRAFT INTRUDING IN DEFENSE SECTOR! PREPARE TO REPEL INVADERS!
2

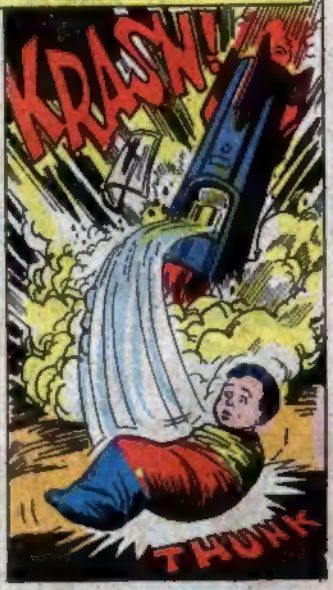
BUT SECONDS LATER...
IT'S SUPERMAN'S SPACE-BIER! THE INTERPLANETARY COUNCIL WARNED US HIS FUNERAL WOULD PASS THIS WAY!
THE MIGHTY SUPERMAN, WHO ONCE SAVED US FROM THE SERPENT PEOPLE OF THE VIPER PLANET! ALL KNORR MUST GO INTO MOURNING!
MY OLD FRIENDS, THE AVIANS OF KNORR!
MY TELESCOPIC VISION SHOWS THEY'RE GOING THROUGH THEIR WEIRD GRIEF CEREMONY IN MY HONOR!
WITH HIS DYING POWERS, THE MAN OF STEEL OBSERVES A FANTASTIC RITUAL!
MOTHER, WHY MUST EVERYONE WEAR A BLINDFOLD?
BECAUSE THE GREAT SUPERMAN IS DYING! WE COVER OUR EYES FOR TWO CHRONONS,* TO SHOW THAT THESE ARE THE DARKEST MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF KNORR!
* A CHRONON IS A KNORRIAN HOUR, ABOUT 40 MINUTES EARTH TIME! -ED.
SOON, SUPERMAN PASSES ANOTHER OUT-OF-THE-WAY PLANET...
IT'S LEXOR, THE WORLD NAMED IN HONOR OF MY ARCH-ENEMY, LEX LUTHOR!
HE BECAME THEIR HERO WHEN HE USED HIS SCIENTIFIC GENIUS TO HELP THEM BUILD AN ADVANCED CIVILIZATION!
THOUGH HE'S A CRIMINAL ON EARTH, THEY HONOR HIM HERE... AND DESPISE ME BECAUSE I'M HIS FOE!
THEY'RE PROBABLY CELEBRATING MY APPROACHING DEATH NOW!
3

JUST THEN...
LUTHOR LIBRARY
IT'S TRUE! SUPERMAN IS DYING! THE SPACE-BULLETINS SAID LUTHOR INFECTED HIM WITH LEPROSY, BUT I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT UNTIL NOW!
LUTHOR IS A MURDERER! WE'LL BURN ALL THE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE HE GAVE US! WE WANT NOTHING FROM HIM!
THESE ARE THE INVENTIONS LUTHOR WAS GOING TO SHOW US HOW TO USE WHEN HE RETURNED TO OUR WORLD!
BAH! A CRIMINAL LIKE LUTHOR COULD ONLY CREATE EVIL! DESTROY THEM ALL!
CRAASH!
CRACK
PLEASE DON'T TEAR DOWN LUTHOR'S STATUE! HE WAS OUR FRIEND, OUR BENEFACTOR!
CRAACK
RRUMBLE
YOU'RE HIS WIFE...
NATURALLY, YOU'D PLEAD FOR HIM, ARDORA! BUT THE REST OF US ARE ASHAMED WE EVER ALLOWED HIM ON OUR WORLD!
HOW IRONIC! AS LUTHOR'S ENEMY, THE LEXORIANS HATED ME FOR YEARS!
NOW, EVEN THEY MOURN MY DEATH! BY KILLING ME, LUTHOR LOST THE LOVE OF A WHOLE WORLD!
AND NOW, AS THE MIGHTY HERO'S STRENGTH EBBS...
I FEEL WEAKER... WEAKER... DEATH MUST BE APPROACHING... I CAN SEE MY WHOLE LIFE PASS BEFORE MY EYES!
MY SUPER-MEMORY IS BRINGING BACK MY PAST WITH TOTAL RECALL!
4

"I REMEMBER... BEING ROCKETED INTO SPACE JUST AS A NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE SHATTERED MY NATIVE WORLD, KRYPTON, INTO RADIOACTIVE GREEN FRAGMENTS, LATER KNOWN AS KRYPTONITE!"*

* SOME KRYPTONITE FRAGMENTS PASSED THROUGH WEIRD COSMIC CLOUDS TO BECOME RED, WHITE AND GOLD KRYPTONITE!—ED.

"AFTER A LONG SPACE JOURNEY, MY ROCKET CRASHED ON EARTH ...BUT MY INFANT BODY WAS UNHARMED!... I LEARNED AFTERWARD THAT ALL PEOPLE AND THINGS FROM KRYPTON BECOME INVULNERABLE ON EARTH!"




"AN ORPHAN IN AN ALIEN WORLD, I WAS FOUND BY JONATHAN AND MARTHA KENT, WHO LIVED ON A FARM NEAR SMALLVILLE..."

MARTHA! THAT'S A SPACE ROCKET!
LAND SAKES! THEN THIS CHILD MUST BE FROM ANOTHER WORLD!... IF ONLY WE HAD A BABY OF OUR OWN AS SWEET AS THIS!

"SO THE KENTS ADOPTED ME AND NAMED ME CLARK! IT WAS THEY WHO FIRST DISCOVERED MY AMAZING POWERS..."

ME HELP YOU, DADDY!
CLARK! YOU YANKED THAT STUMP OUT OF THE GROUND AS EASILY AS A DERRICK! YOU MUST HAVE SUPER-STRENGTH!... YOU'RE A SUPER-BABY!

"OVER THE YEARS, MY OTHER SUPER-POWERS WERE DISCOVERED! THEN...ONE DAY..."

I UNRAVELED THE INVULNERABLE KRYPTONIAN BLANKETS YOU WERE WRAPPED IN WHEN YOU LANDED AND WOVE THIS SUPER-COSTUME FOR YOU, SON!
THANKS, MOM! NOW THAT I'VE MASTERED MY POWERS, IT'S TIME TO BEGIN MY CAREER AS SUPERBOY!

"I HAD PROMISED MY PARENTS TO USE MY POWERS ONLY FOR GOOD! THE NEXT DAY I BEGAN MY LIFELONG WAR AGAINST EVIL..."

YIIII! TH-THAT FLYING KID BROKE UP OUR JOB! OUR BULLETS ARE BOUNCING OFF HIM! WHO IS HE?
YOU CAN TELL THE POLICE YOU WERE CAPTURED BY SUPERBOY!
POW
POW

"BUT WE KENTS KEPT ONE SECRET TO OURSELVES..."
MOTHER, DAD... IF CRIMINALS FOUND OUT THAT SUPERBOY WAS YOUR SON, THEY MIGHT HARM YOU! I MUST KEEP MY CLARK KENT IDENTITY A SECRET!
THAT'S WHY WE TAUGHT YOU TO POSE AS A TIMID LAD, AFRAID OF HIS OWN SHADOW! YOUR GLASSES WILL HELP TO DISGUISE YOU!
AND SO I BEGAN MY SUPER-CAREER!... BUT WHAT IF KRYPTON HADN'T EXPLODED?
WHAT IF I HAD BEEN RAISED ON MY NATIVE WORLD BY MY REAL PARENTS, JOR-EL AND LARA?
"ON KRYPTON, I MIGHT HAVE BECOME A FAMOUS SCIENTIST LIKE MY FATHER!"
"BUT INSTEAD, I GREW UP IN SMALLVILLE... WHERE MY NEIGHBOR WAS LOVELY LANA LANG..."
AHA! JUST AS I ALWAYS THOUGHT, CLARK! ONLY SUPERBOY COULD LIFT THAT TREE-TRUNK SO EASILY!
GOOD TRY LANA! BUT THIS IS A SHELL, HOLLOWED OUT BY DRY-ROT!
A ROBOT-SPACECRAFT FOR INTERPLANETARY EXPLORATION!... LARA, OUR BOY, KAL-EL, HAS MADE A SUPERB BREAKTHROUGH IN THE SCIENCE OF ROBOTICS!
HE HAS INHERITED YOUR SCIENTIFIC TALENTS, JOR-EL!
"THOUGH I NEVER ADMITTED IT, LANA LANG WAS MY BOYHOOD SWEETHEART!..."
"I STILL REMEMBER THE SLEEPING BEAUTY PAGEANT, WHEN, AS SUPERBOY, I PLAYED THE PRINCE, AND LANA PORTRAYED THE BEAUTIFUL, SLEEPING PRINCESS. THAT WAS OUR FIRST KISS..."
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

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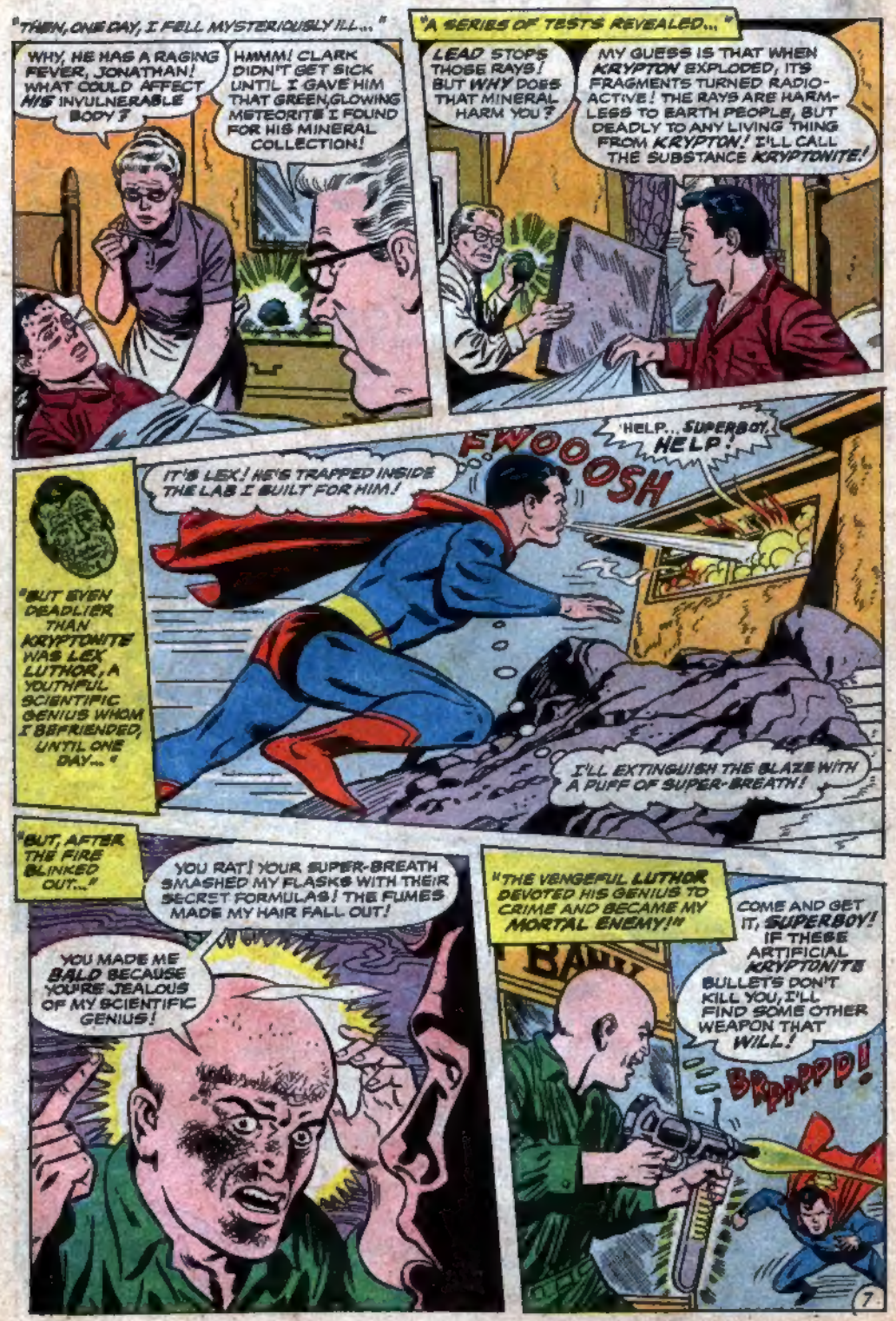
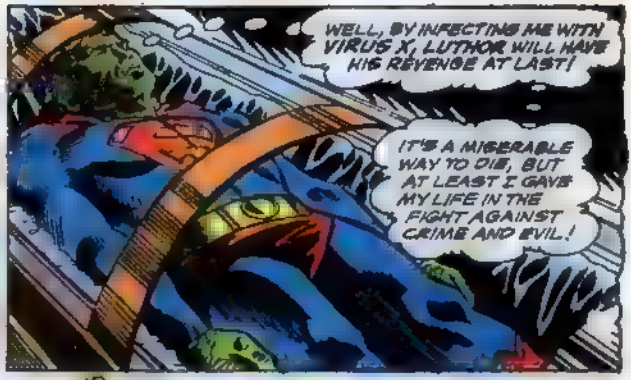
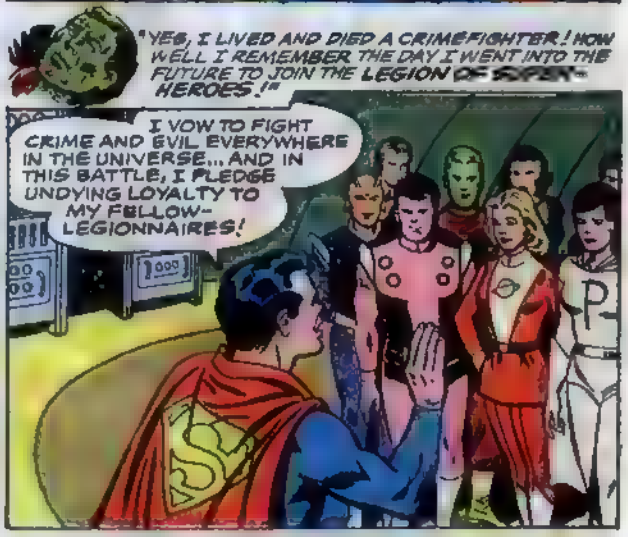
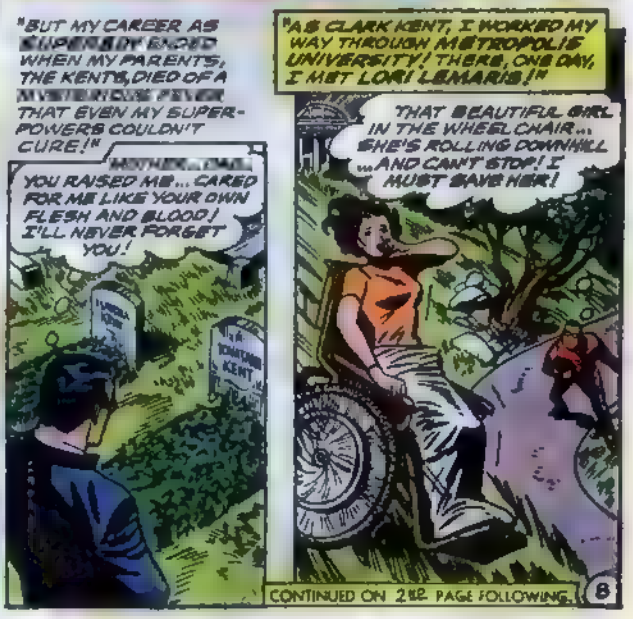

"THEN, ONE DAY, I FELL MYSTERIOUSLY ILL..."
WHY, HE HAS A RAGING FEVER, JONATHAN! WHAT COULD AFFECT HIS INVULNERABLE BODY?
HMMM! CLARK DIDN'T GET SICK UNTIL I GAVE HIM THAT GREEN, GLOWING METEORITE I FOUND FOR HIS MINERAL COLLECTION!
"A SERIES OF TESTS REVEALED..."
LEAD STOPS THOSE RAYS! BUT WHY DOES THAT MINERAL HARM YOU?
MY GUESS IS THAT WHEN KRYPTON EXPLODED, ITS FRAGMENTS TURNED RADIOACTIVE! THE RAYS ARE HARMLESS TO EARTH PEOPLE, BUT DEADLY TO ANY LIVING THING FROM KRYPTON! I'LL CALL THE SUBSTANCE KRYPTONITE!
"BUT EVEN DEADLIER THAN KRYPTONITE WAS LEX LUTHOR, A YOUTHFUL SCIENTIFIC GENIUS WHOM I BEFRIENDED, UNTIL ONE DAY..."
IT'S LEX! HE'S TRAPPED INSIDE THE LAB I BUILT FOR HIM!
F'WOOOSH
HELP... SUPERBOY, HELP!
I'LL EXTINGUISH THE BLAZE WITH A PUFF OF SUPER-BREATH!
"BUT, AFTER THE FIRE BLINKED OUT..."
YOU RAT! YOUR SUPER-BREATH SMASHED MY FLASKS WITH THEIR SECRET FORMULAS! THE FUMES MADE MY HAIR FALL OUT!
YOU MADE ME BALD BECAUSE YOU'RE JEALOUS OF MY SCIENTIFIC GENIUS!
"THE VENGEFUL LUTHOR DEVOTED HIS GENIUS TO CRIME AND BECAME MY MORTAL ENEMY!"
COME AND GET IT, SUPERBOY! IF THESE ARTIFICIAL KRYPTONITE BULLETS DON'T KILL YOU, I'LL FIND SOME OTHER WEAPON THAT WILL!
BRPPPPD!
7

BUT WHAT IF LEX HAD USED HIS SUPERB BRAIN FOR MANKIND?
...AND FOR CREATING A LIVING, SUPER-STRONG BEING OUT OF SYNTHETIC PROTOPLASM, WE GRANT LEX LUTHOR THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY!


WELL, BY INFECTING ME WITH VIRUS X, LUTHOR WILL HAVE HIS REVENGE AT LAST!
IT'S A MISERABLE WAY TO DIE, BUT AT LEAST I GAVE MY LIFE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME AND EVIL!


"YES, I LIVED AND DIED A CRIMEFIGHTER! HOW WELL I REMEMBER THE DAY I WENT INTO THE FUTURE TO JOIN THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES!"
I VOW TO FIGHT CRIME AND EVIL EVERYWHERE IN THE UNIVERSE... AND IN THIS BATTLE, I PLEDGE UNDYING LOYALTY TO MY FELLOW-LEGIONNAIRES!


"BUT MY CAREER AS SUPERBOY ENDED WHEN MY PARENTS, THE KENTS, DIED OF A MYSTERIOUS FEVER THAT EVEN MY SUPER-POWERS COULDN'T CURE!"
MOTHER... DAD... YOU RAISED ME... CARED FOR ME LIKE YOUR OWN FLESH AND BLOOD! I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!
"AS CLARK KENT, I WORKED MY WAY THROUGH METROPOLIS UNIVERSITY! THERE, ONE DAY, I MET LORI LEMARIS!"
THAT BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN THE WHEEL CHAIR... SHE'S ROLLING DOWNHILL ...AND CAN'T STOP! I MUST SAVE HER!
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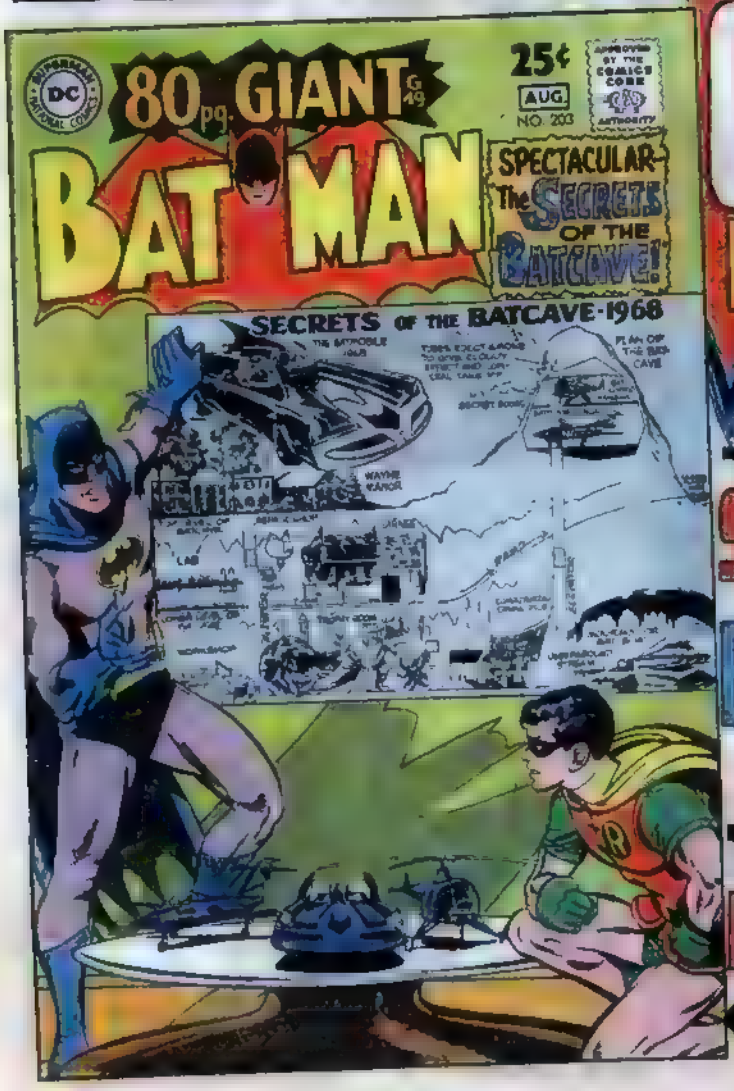
8

# NEVER BEFORE...




# IN ONE GIANT ISSUE!

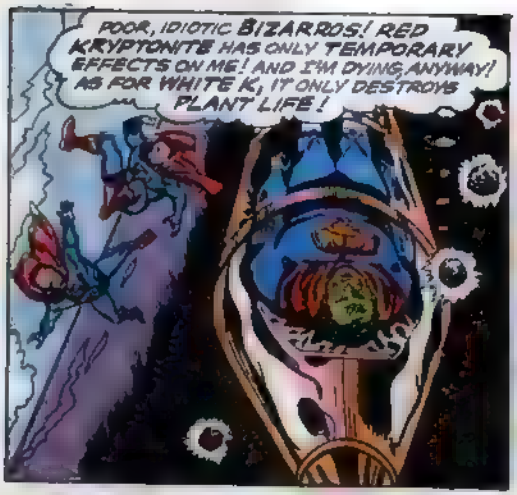
## THE SECRETS OF BATMAN'S SPEC-TACULAR EQUIPMENT

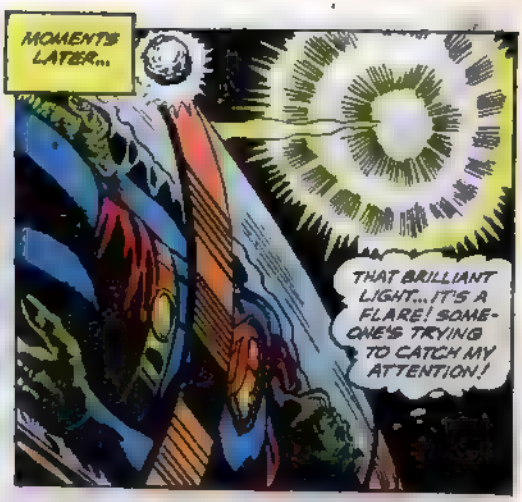
ON SALE MAY 9th

"THAT'S HOW IT STARTED! I BEGAN TO DATE HER! I WAS SOON FASCINATED BY HER STRANGE AIR OF MYSTERY..."
LORI, I LOVE YOU! WILL YOU MARRY ME? BEFORE YOU ANSWER, THERE'S ONE THING YOU MUST KNOW!
THAT YOU'RE SUPERMAN?
"LATER, LORI MADE A STRANGE CONFESSION..."
I'M A MERMAID FROM THE SUNKEN CITY OF ATLANTIS! MY PEOPLE COMMUNICATE BY TELEPATHY! THAT'S HOW I KNEW YOU WERE SUPERMAN... I READ YOUR MIND!
I WAS SENT TO THE SURFACE TO STUDY YOUR CIVILIZATION!
"OUR ROMANCE ENDED WHEN I ESCORTED HER HOME TO ATLANTIS..."
SUPERMAN, DARLING, I CAN READ YOUR THOUGHTS! I LOVE YOU TOO, BUT I MUST RETURN TO MY OWN KIND!
AND MY DUTY LIES IN THE WORLD ABOVE! GOODBYE, DEAREST!
"LATER, SHE MARRIED RONAL, A MERMAN FROM ANOTHER WORLD..."
"YEARS LATER, AFTER GRADUATING FROM COLLEGE, I GOT A JOB AS REPORTER ON THE METROPOLIS DAILY PLANET..."
CLARK, MEET LOIS LANE, MY STAR REPORTER! SHE GETS SCOOPS GALORE... BUT SHE OFTEN PLUNGES HEADLONG INTO TROUBLE!
WHAT A GORGEOUS GIRL!
"AS CLARK KENT I STILL PRETENDED TO BE A COWARD..."
CLARK! WE CAN'T COVER THIS HOLD-UP STORY WHILE HIDING IN THESE STEEL PIPES!
SHE THINKS I'M CHICKEN, BUT ACTUALLY, I'M PROTECTING HER!
POW KPOW!
ZING
BWEE
"I BECAME LOIS' SELF-APPOINTED GUARDIAN..."
SUPERMAN, I WAS JUST PHOTOGRAPHING THIS VOLCANO!... DO YOU REALIZE THIS IS THE THIRD TIME YOU'VE RESCUED ME THIS WEEK!
TRUE!
I CAN'T STAND THE THOUGHT OF ANYTHING HAPPENING TO HER!
9

LOIS... I LOVED YOU BEST OF ALL! BUT THANK HEAVENS WE NEVER MARRIED! I WOULD HAVE LEFT YOU A WIDOW!
"ONLY I COULD STOP EVIL DOERS LIKE THE CRIMINAL COMPUTER, BRAINIAC!"
HA! HA! MY HYPER-FORCE SHRINKING RAY REDUCED THE CITY OF KANDOR TO TINY SIZE AND SEALED IT IN THIS BOTTLE!
"BUT I OUTFOXED BRAINIAC AND RECOVERED THE BOTTLE-CITY FROM HIS SPACESHIP..."
BRAINIAC KIDNAPPED KANDOR FROM MY NATIVE PLANET, KRYPTON, BEFORE IT EXPLODED! MILLIONS OF MY PEOPLE ARE TRAPPED ALIVE IN THIS BOTTLE PRISON!
"I BROUGHT KANDOR TO MY FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE IN THE REMOTE ARCTIC!"
THE CITY WILL BE SAFE HERE! PERHAPS SOMEDAY I'LL FIND A WAY TO RESTORE IT AND ITS PEOPLE TO NORMAL SIZE!
"LATER, YET ANOTHER SURVIVOR OF KRYPTON APPEARED!"
I'M KARA, DAUGHTER OF YOUR UNCLE, ZOR-EL! WHEN KRYPTON EXPLODED, OUR HOME, ARGO CITY, SURVIVED BECAUSE IT WAS HURLED AWAY INTACT! LATER, KRYPTONITE RADIATION DESTROYED ARGO CITY... BUT I ESCAPED!
"MY COUSIN, KARA, BECAME SUPERGIRL!"
WELCOME SUPERGIRL
"TOGETHER WE SHARED THE DUTY OF BEING EARTH'S SUPER-GUARDIANS! OH, THE GLORIOUS DAY I ANNOUNCED HER PRESENCE TO THE WORLD!"

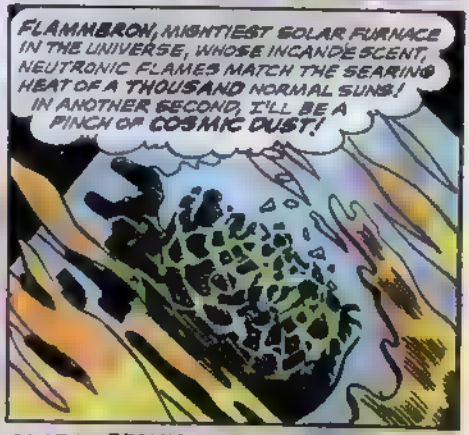
"AND HOW CAN I FORGET MY TEAMMATES, BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS OF GOTHAM CITY? THEY WERE THE ONLY ONES TO WHOM I REVEALED MY SECRET IDENTITY..."
PROMISE THAT YOU'LL NEVER REVEAL THAT SUPERMAN AND CLARK KENT ARE THE SAME PERSON!
AGREED...PROVIDED YOU DON'T TELL ANYONE THAT BATMAN IS BRUCE WAYNE...
...OR THAT ROBIN IS DICK GRAYSON!
"THEN THERE WAS MY BEST PAL, JIMMY OLSEN... THE SCRAPPY DAILY PLANET REPORTER! HOW HE ENJOYED THAT SUPERSONIC SIGNAL-WATCH I GAVE HIM!"
SUPERMAN, I CLOBBERED THESE HOODS WITH JUDO! HOW ABOUT CARRYING THEM TO THE CLINK?
SURE THING, "TIGER"!
ZEE ZEE ZEE
JIMMY STOOD BY ME THROUGH THICK AND THIN! I STILL REMEMBER HOW WE TEAMED UP AS NIGHTWING AND FLAMEBIRD, TO FIGHT EVIL-DOERS IN THE BOTTLE OF KANDOR, WHERE I HAD NO SUPER-POWERS!
JUST THEN, SUPERMAN PASSES THE SQUARE BIZARRO WORLD, PEOPLED BY IMPERFECT SUPERMAN DOUBLES, WHO ACT THE REVERSE OF NORMAL EARTH BEINGS!
IT AM SUPERMAN'S FLYING COFFIN! HIM GOING TO DIE!
US HELP HIM DIE FASTER BY SCATTERING RED AND WHITE KRYPTONITE NEAR HIM! IT MAKE HIM HAPPY!


POOR, IDIOTIC BIZARROS! RED KRYPTONITE HAS ONLY TEMPORARY EFFECTS ON ME! AND I'M DYING, ANYWAY! AS FOR WHITE K, IT ONLY DESTROYS PLANT LIFE!

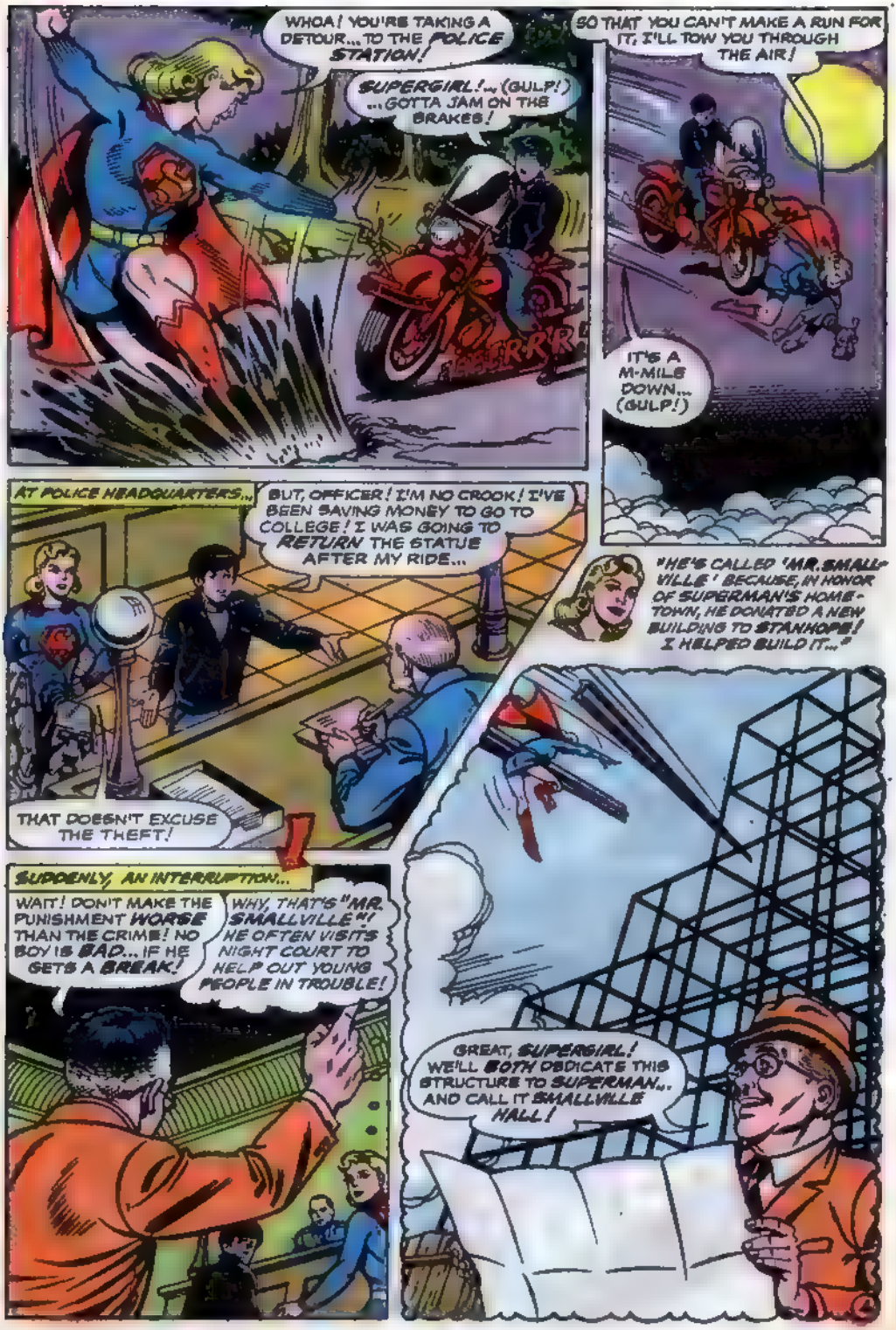


IT'S SUPERGIRL! SHE BROUGHT LOIS, LANA AND LORI TO SAY A LAST GOODBYE!... THE THREE GIRLS I LOVED MOST!
:SOB!: I'LL NEVER LOVE ANYONE ELSE!
I'LL NEVER FORGET HIM! NEVER!
MY FIRST SWEETHEART! :SNIFF!:
12

FLAMMBRON, THE SUN WHICH SUPERMAN CHOSE FOR HIS FUNERAL PYRE! I'D BETTER TURN BACK BEFORE THIS SPACE-BUBBLE MELTS!
FAREWELL, COUSIN! I'LL TRY TO TAKE YOUR PLACE! BUT WHO CAN EQUAL SUPERMAN? :SOB!:


FLAMMBRON, MIGHTIEST SOLAR FURNACE IN THE UNIVERSE, WHOSE INCANDESCENT, NEUTRONIC FLAMES MATCH THE SEARING HEAT OF A THOUSAND NORMAL SUNS! IN ANOTHER SECOND, I'LL BE A PINCH OF COSMIC DUST!

CAN THIS **REALLY** BE THE END FOR THE **MAN OF STEEL?** IF IT IS, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A MIGHTY **EMPTY** SECTION IN THE NEXT **ACTION!** BUT THERE'S A CLUE TO THE STORY'S SURPRISE CONCLUSION IN **THIS** CHAPTER... AND YOU HAVE A WHOLE MONTH TO FIGURE IT OUT!


WHOA! YOU'RE TAKING A DETOUR... TO THE POLICE STATION!
SUPERGIRL!... (GULP!) ...GOTTA JAM ON THE BRAKES!
SO THAT YOU CAN'T MAKE A RUN FOR IT, I'LL TOW YOU THROUGH THE AIR!
IT'S A M-MILE DOWN... (GULP!)
AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
BUT, OFFICER! I'M NO CROOK! I'VE BEEN SAVING MONEY TO GO TO COLLEGE! I WAS GOING TO RETURN THE STATUE AFTER MY RIDE...
THAT DOESN'T EXCUSE THE THEFT!
"HE'S CALLED 'MR. SMALLVILLE' BECAUSE, IN HONOR OF SUPERMAN'S HOMETOWN, HE DONATED A NEW BUILDING TO STANHOPE! I HELPED BUILD IT..."
SUDDENLY, AN INTERRUPTION...
WAIT! DON'T MAKE THE PUNISHMENT WORSE THAN THE CRIME! NO BOY IS BAD... IF HE GETS A BREAK!
WHY, THAT'S "MR. SMALLVILLE"! HE OFTEN VISITS NIGHT COURT TO HELP OUT YOUNG PEOPLE IN TROUBLE!
GREAT, SUPERGIRL! WE'LL BOTH DEDICATE THIS STRUCTURE TO SUPERMAN... AND CALL IT SMALLVILLE HALL!

IF I FINANCE A SCHOLARSHIP FOR LEON TO ENTER STANHOPE COLLEGE IMMEDIATELY, WILL YOU GIVE HIM ANOTHER CHANCE?
HMM... SINCE IT'S HIS FIRST OFFENSE, PETITION GRANTED!
I HOPE YOU'RE DOING THE RIGHT THING, SIR! BUT I HATE TO SEE A CROOK REWARDED INSTEAD OF PUNISHED!
I'LL RETURN THESE TROPHIES TO THE MUSEUM NOW!
THAT SUPER-CHICK SOUNDS DISAPPOINTED THAT MY NEW PAD ISN'T A CELL!
SOMETIME LATER, AFTER LEON HAS REGISTERED AT STANHOPE...
MAYBE I WAS TOO TOUGH ON HIM AS SUPERGIRL! I'LL TRY TO BE FRIENDS WITH HIM...
HI, LEON! I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU! I'M LINDA DANVERS!
HI! I HAVEN'T MADE MANY FRIENDS HERE YET! IF YOU DON'T MIND BEING WITH A FRESHMAN, HOW ABOUT TAKING IN THIS HOP WITH ME, LINDA?
IT'S A DATE, LEON!
MINI-DANCE
MINI-CLOTHES REQUIRED FOR ALL
THAT EVENING..
I HOPE YOU DON'T... ER... HOLD A GRUDGE AGAINST SUPERGIRL...
DON'T MENTION HER, LINDA! IT'LL JUST SPOIL THE EVENING FOR ME!
HE SURE ISN'T ONE TO FORGIVE AND FORGET!
5

NEXT DAY, IN PHYSICS CLASS...
YOU ALL ATTENDED THE MINI-DANCE LAST NIGHT! WELL, THIS IS A MINI-COMPUTER, THE SIZE OF A CAKE OF SOAP! IT'S USED IN SPACE SATELLITES! NASA, WHICH LOANED IT TO US, VALUES IT AT $100,000!
WOW! WHAT A BUNDLE!
LATER, SUPERGIRL HELPS OUT IN THE ART CLASS...
IT'S FUN TO SPEND LINDA'S FREE STUDY HOUR HERE EVERY DAY, POSING FOR THE STUDENTS!
EXCELLENT! WHAT OTHER MODEL COULD HOLD A POSE IN MID-AIR?
SUDDENLY, THE PHYSICS PROFESSOR BURSTS IN WITH BAD NEWS...
ART
SUPERGIRL! I KNEW YOU'D BE HERE! THE MINI-COMPUTER IS GONE! YOU MUST FIND WHO STOLE IT!
RIGHT! FIRST I'LL EXAMINE EVERY STUDENT'S LOCKER WITH MY X-RAY VISION!
SOON, WORKING AT SUPER-SPEED...
IT'S IN HERE... LEON JACKSON'S LOCKER!
I HEARD THAT! AND IT'S NOT TRUE! I'LL PROVE IT BY OPENING MY LOCKER, AND...
THE COMPUTER... HOW'D IT GET IN HERE? I DIDN'T TAKE IT... HONEST!
OF COURSE NOT... IT JUST SNEAKED IN WHEN YOU WEREN'T LOOKING!
IT'S POSSIBLE SOMEONE ELSE DID HIDE IT IN LEON'S LOCKER! I'M WILLING TO GIVE HIM THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT... UNTIL WE FIND OUT FOR SURE WHO TOOK IT!
THAT'S TWICE LEON HAS ESCAPED PAYING FOR HIS CRIMES! BUT I'LL NAIL HIM NEXT TIME!
101
6

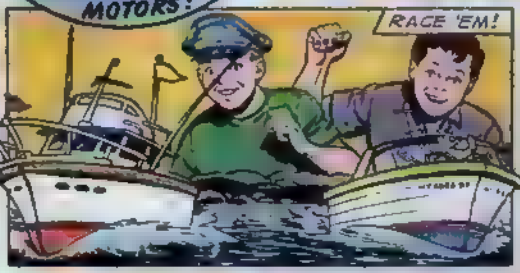
AFTER CLASSES, AS LINDA AND LEON PASS THE ART ROOM...
GOOD HEAVENS... LOOK! A VANDAL HAS DISFIGURED ALL THE SUPERGIRL PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURES!
DON'T LOOK AT ME! I MAY NOT EXACTLY LOVE SUPERGIRL, BUT I WOULDN'T PULL SUCH A STUPID STUNT!
WOULDN'T HE? LINDA'S MICROSCOPIC VISION DISCOVERS AN ALARMING CLUE!
OH, NO! THAT FINGERPRINT IN THE WET CLAY EXACTLY MATCHES ONE OF LEON'S FINGERS!
MAYBE I'M GETTING SOFT... BUT I'M STARTING TO THINK HE IS BEING FRAMED! I'LL WIPE OUT THAT FINGERPRINT WITH MY HEAT VISION!
LOOK! THIS HANDKERCHIEF ON THE FLOOR HAS MY INITIALS ON IT!
I'M SURE THIS WAS PLANTED BY SUPERGIRL! SHE'S DETERMINED TO SEND ME TO JAIL, EVEN IF SHE HAS TO FAKE THE EVIDENCE! SHE PROBABLY PUT THAT COMPUTER IN MY LOCKER, TOO!
NONSENSE! SUPERGIRL WOULD NEVER DO ANYTHING THAT SNEAKY!
THEN, AS THEY HURRIEDLY ELIMINATE ALL TRACES OF THE VANDALISM...
THIS IS ONE THING I WON'T GET BLAMED FOR! THANKS FOR HELPING, LINDA! SUPERGIRL HAS IT IN FOR ME, BUT YOU'RE MY FRIEND!
IF HE ONLY KNEW SUPERGIRL AND I ARE THE SAME PERSON!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING
7

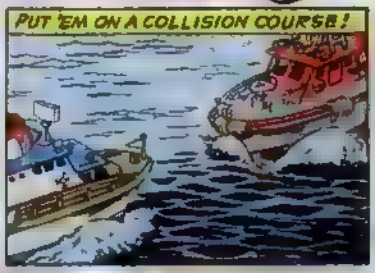
RIDE the HIGH SEAS with

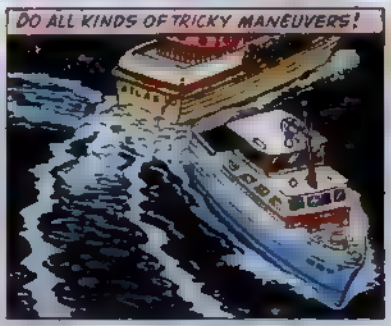
# BOATERIFIC

the NEW ACTION FLEET, POWERED by the FAMOUS MOTORIFIC MOTORS!

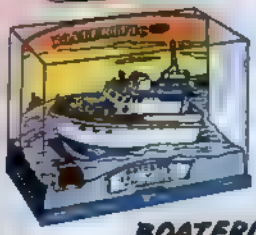
**NOW HEAR THIS:** NOW MOTORIFIC TAKES TO THE WATER WITH **BOATERIFIC.** THERE ARE **8** GREAT **BOATERIFIC** BOATS AND EACH ONE HAS A FULLY STEERABLE RUDDER, REAL PROPELLER POWER, AN AUTOMATIC BAILING PUMP AND SUPER-REALISTIC DETAILS. JUST SNAP IN A MOTOR... BATTEN DOWN THE HATCH AND FULL SPEED AHEAD WITH **BOATERIFIC!**





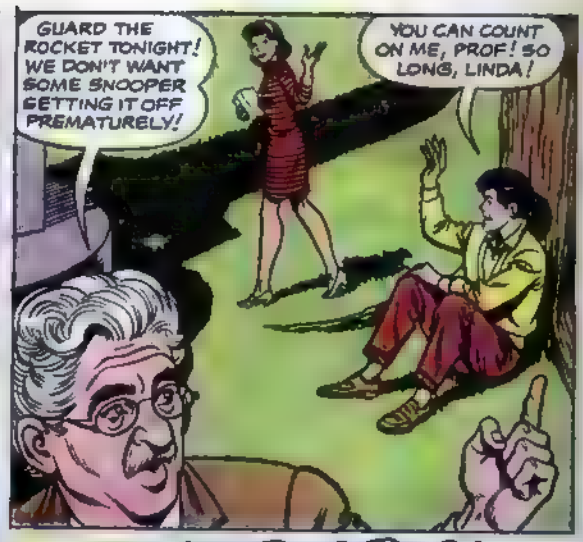
## BE THE SKIPPER OF YOUR OWN BOATERIFIC FLEET... GET 'EM ALL!



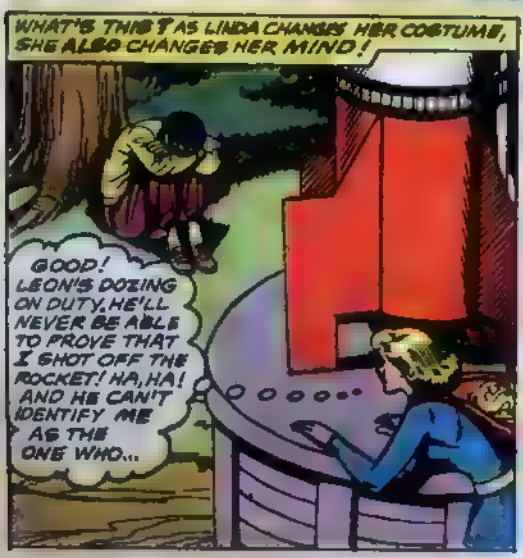
**BOATERIFIC**™...
it's TERRIFIC...IT's

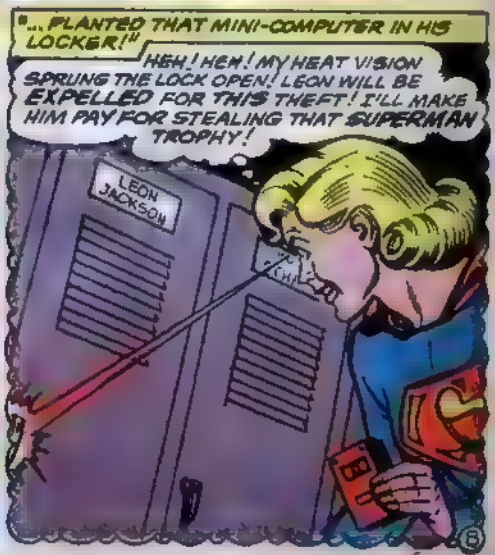
IDEAL

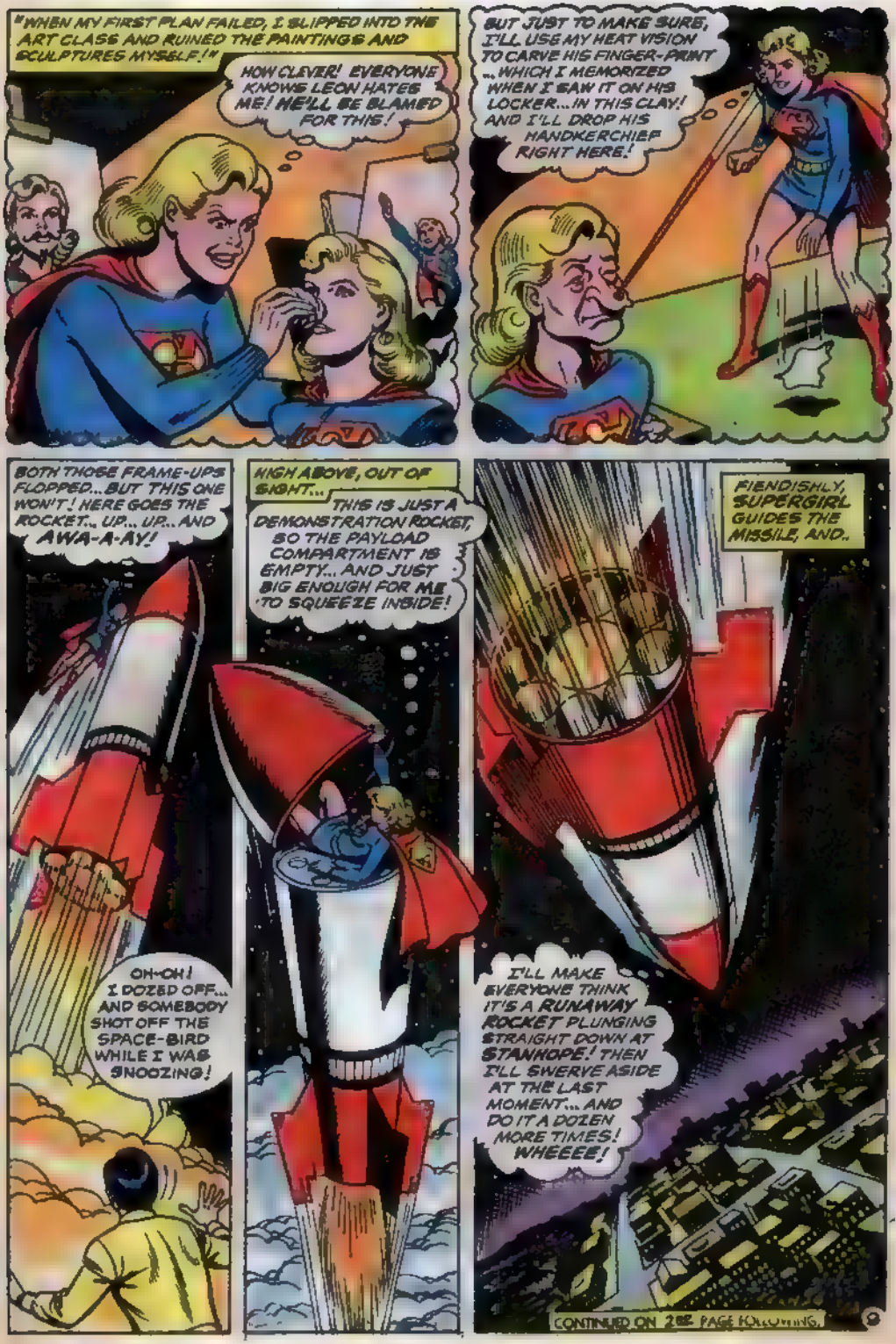
RIGHT NOW, I HAVE A JOB TO DO FOR PROF. BROWN OF THE ASTRONAUTICS DEPARTMENT! HE WANTS ME TO GUARD THAT SPACE ROCKET!
LEON! LAUNCH TIME IS 11:00 A.M. TOMORROW, WITH THE WHOLE CLASS OBSERVING!


GUARD THE ROCKET TONIGHT! WE DON'T WANT SOME SNOOPER GETTING IT OFF PREMATURELY!
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, PROF! SO LONG, LINDA!

WHEN LINDA IS ALONE...
HMM... NOW I'M SURE SOMEONE'S TRYING TO FRAME LEON! AND THAT PERSON COULD CERTAINLY GET HIM IN A REAL JAM NOW! SO I'LL HELP HIM BY SWITCHING TO SUPERGIRL, AND...
FIX HIS WAGON... BUT GOOD!


WHAT'S THIS? AS LINDA CHANGES HER COSTUME, SHE ALSO CHANGES HER MIND!
GOOD! LEON'S DOZING ON DUTY, HE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO PROVE THAT I SHOT OFF THE ROCKET! HA, HA! AND HE CAN'T IDENTIFY ME AS THE ONE WHO...


"... PLANTED THAT MINI-COMPUTER IN HIS LOCKER!"
HEH! HEH! MY HEAT VISION SPRUNG THE LOCK OPEN! LEON WILL BE EXPELLED FOR THIS THEFT! I'LL MAKE HIM PAY FOR STEALING THAT SUPERMAN TROPHY!
LEON JACKSON


"WHEN MY FIRST PLAN FAILED, I SLIPPED INTO THE ART CLASS AND RUINED THE PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURES MYSELF!"
HOW CLEVER! EVERYONE KNOWS LEON HATES ME! HE'LL BE BLAMED FOR THIS!
BUT JUST TO MAKE SURE, I'LL USE MY HEAT VISION TO CARVE HIS FINGER-PRINT ...WHICH I MEMORIZED WHEN I SAW IT ON HIS LOCKER... IN THIS CLAY! AND I'LL DROP HIS HANDKERCHIEF RIGHT HERE!
BOTH THOSE FRAME-UPS FLOPPED... BUT THIS ONE WON'T! HERE GOES THE ROCKET... UP... UP... AND AWA-A-AY!
OH-OH! I DOZED OFF... AND SOMEBODY SHOT OFF THE SPACE-BIRD WHILE I WAS SNOOZING!
HIGH ABOVE, OUT OF SIGHT...
THIS IS JUST A DEMONSTRATION ROCKET, SO THE PAYLOAD COMPARTMENT IS EMPTY... AND JUST BIG ENOUGH FOR ME TO SQUEEZE INSIDE!
FIENDISHLY, SUPERGIRL GUIDES THE MISSILE, AND..
I'LL MAKE EVERYONE THINK IT'S A RUNAWAY ROCKET PLUNGING STRAIGHT DOWN AT STANHOPE! THEN I'LL SWERVE ASIDE AT THE LAST MOMENT... AND DO IT A DOZEN MORE TIMES! WHEEEE!
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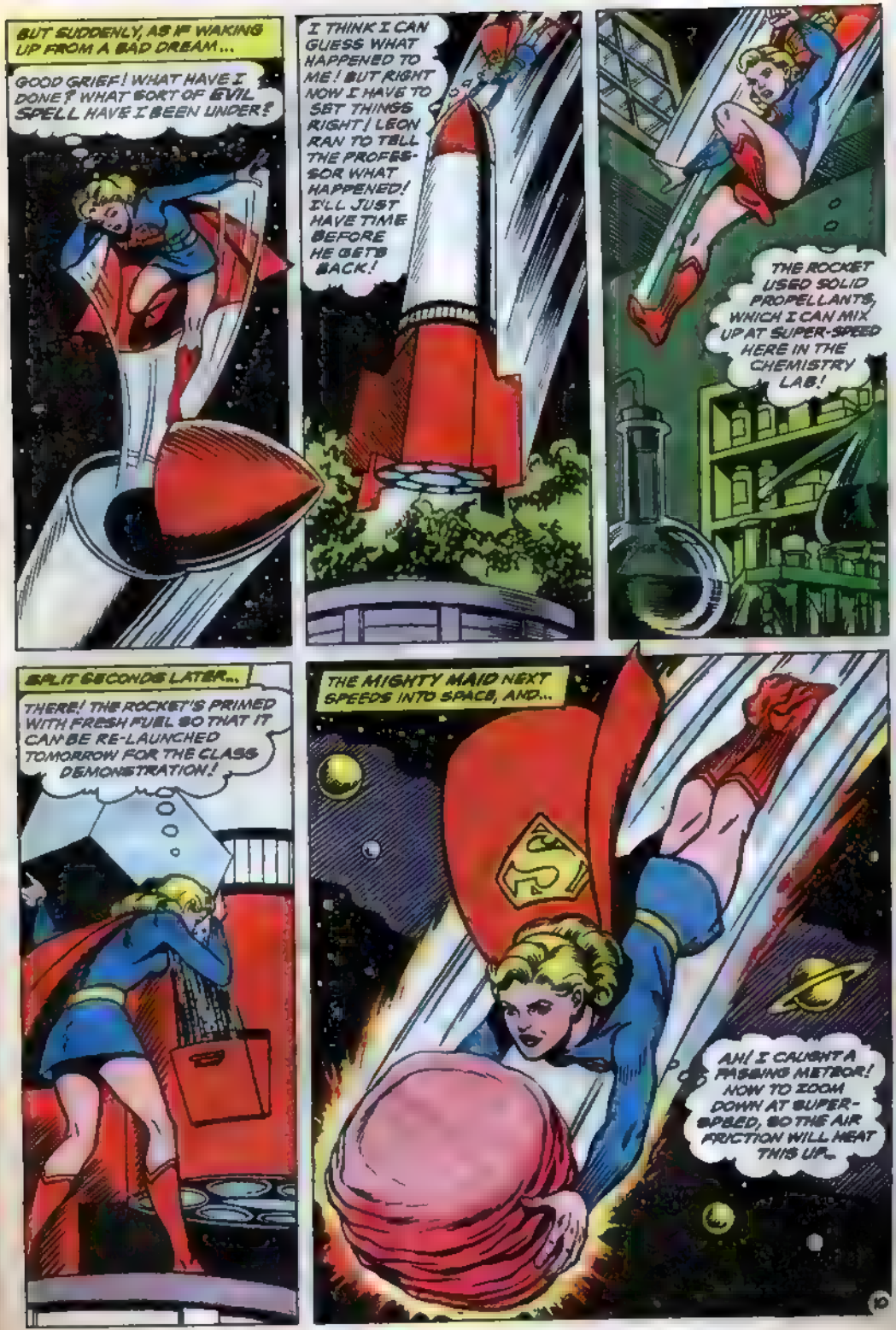
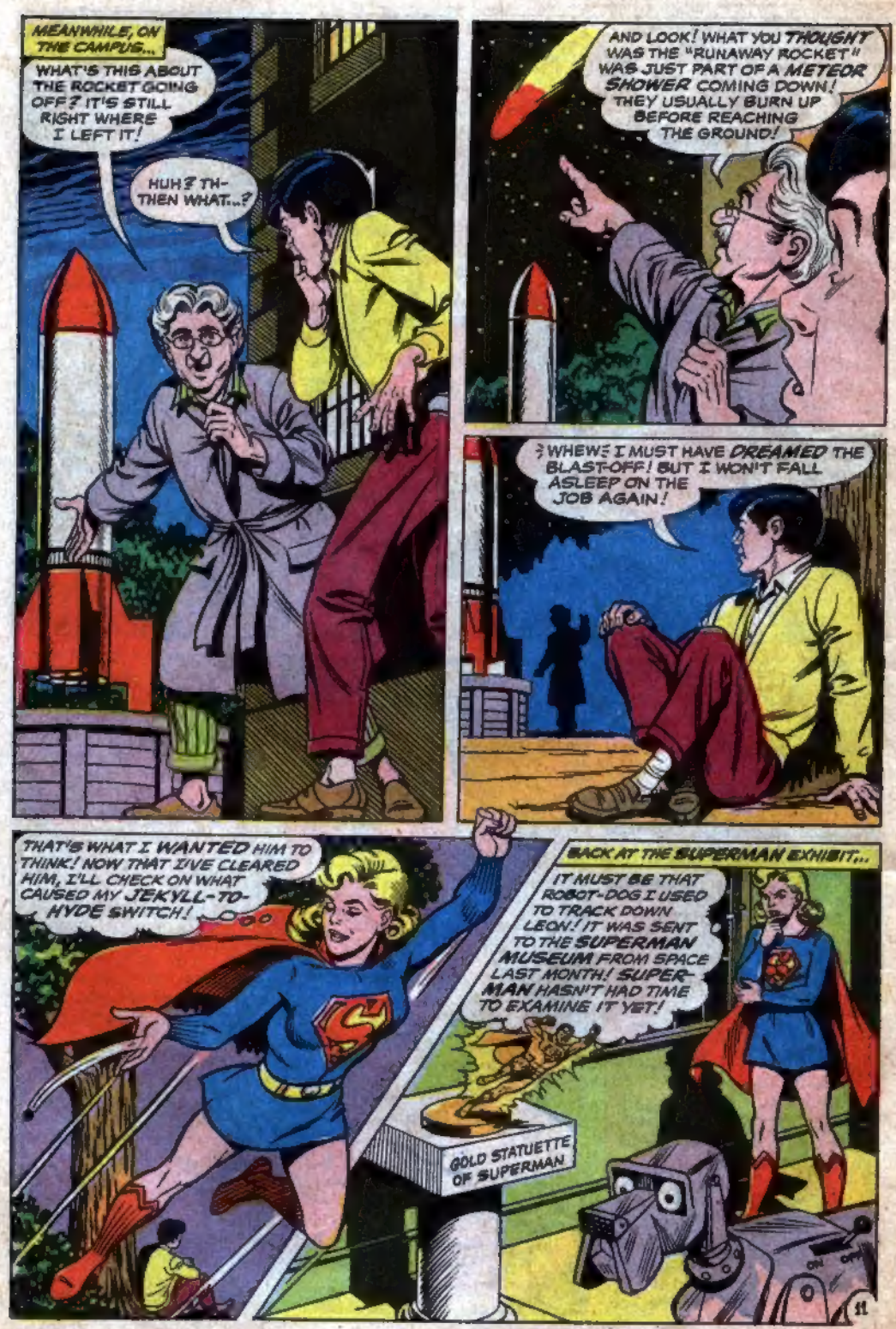
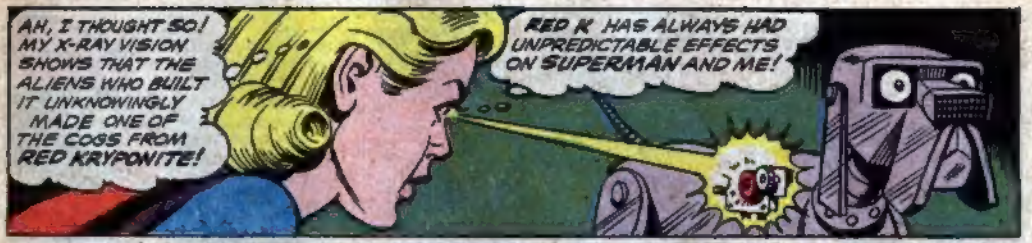
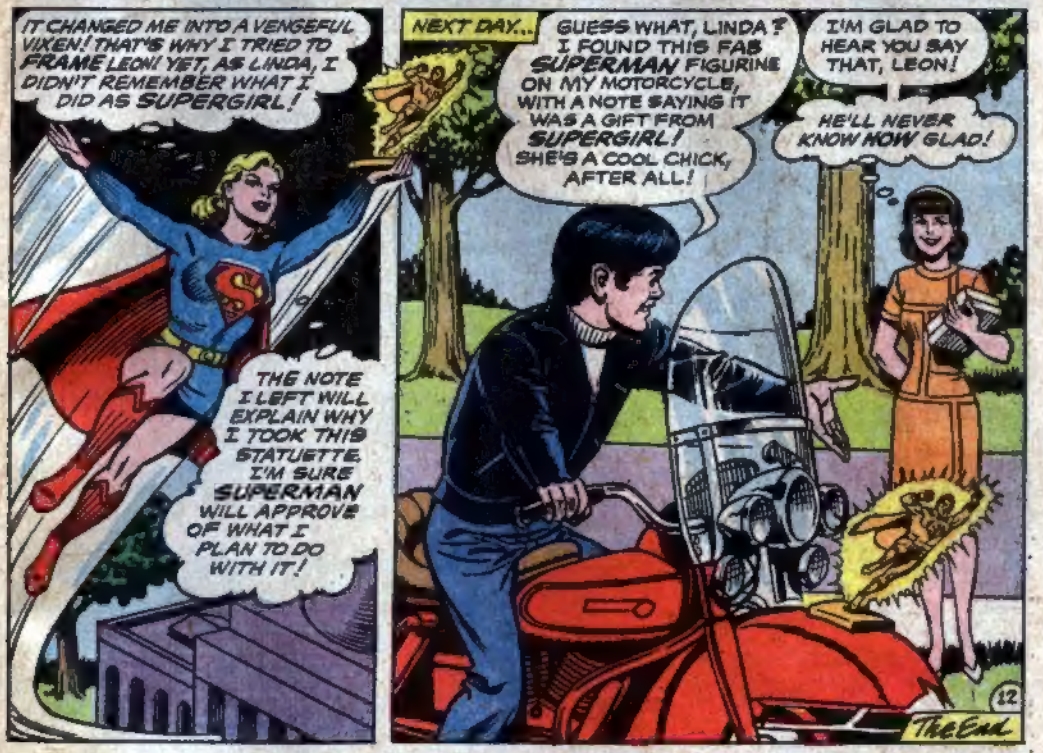

BUT SUDDENLY, AS IF WAKING UP FROM A BAD DREAM...
GOOD GRIEF! WHAT HAVE I DONE? WHAT SORT OF EVIL SPELL HAVE I BEEN UNDER?
I THINK I CAN GUESS WHAT HAPPENED TO ME! BUT RIGHT NOW I HAVE TO SET THINGS RIGHT! LEON RAN TO TELL THE PROFESSOR WHAT HAPPENED! I'LL JUST HAVE TIME BEFORE HE GETS BACK!
THE ROCKET USED SOLID PROPELLANTS, WHICH I CAN MIX UP AT SUPER-SPEED HERE IN THE CHEMISTRY LAB!
SPLIT SECONDS LATER...
THERE! THE ROCKET'S PRIMED WITH FRESH FUEL SO THAT IT CAN BE RE-LAUNCHED TOMORROW FOR THE CLASS DEMONSTRATION!
THE MIGHTY MAID NEXT SPEEDS INTO SPACE, AND...
AH! I CAUGHT A PASSING METEOR! NOW TO ZOOM DOWN AT SUPER-SPEED, SO THE AIR FRICTION WILL HEAT THIS UP...


MEANWHILE, ON THE CAMPUS...
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT THE ROCKET GOING OFF? IT'S STILL RIGHT WHERE I LEFT IT!
HUH? TH-THEN WHAT...?
AND LOOK! WHAT YOU THOUGHT WAS THE "RUNAWAY ROCKET" WAS JUST PART OF A METEOR SHOWER COMING DOWN! THEY USUALLY BURN UP BEFORE REACHING THE GROUND!
WHEW! I MUST HAVE DREAMED THE BLAST-OFF! BUT I WON'T FALL ASLEEP ON THE JOB AGAIN!
THAT'S WHAT I WANTED HIM TO THINK! NOW THAT I'VE CLEARED HIM, I'LL CHECK ON WHAT CAUSED MY JEKYLL-TO-HYDE SWITCH!
BACK AT THE SUPERMAN EXHIBIT...
IT MUST BE THAT ROBOT-DOG I USED TO TRACK DOWN LEON! IT WAS SENT TO THE SUPERMAN MUSEUM FROM SPACE LAST MONTH! SUPERMAN HASN'T HAD TIME TO EXAMINE IT YET!
GOLD STATUETTE OF SUPERMAN


AH, I THOUGHT SO! MY X-RAY VISION SHOWS THAT THE ALIENS WHO BUILT IT UNKNOWINGLY MADE ONE OF THE COSS FROM RED KRYPONITE!
RED K HAS ALWAYS HAD UNPREDICTABLE EFFECTS ON SUPERMAN AND ME!


IT CHANGED ME INTO A VENGEFUL VIXEN! THAT'S WHY I TRIED TO FRAME LEON! YET, AS LINDA, I DIDN'T REMEMBER WHAT I DID AS SUPERGIRL!
THE NOTE I LEFT WILL EXPLAIN WHY I TOOK THIS STATUETTE. I'M SURE SUPERMAN WILL APPROVE OF WHAT I PLAN TO DO WITH IT!
NEXT DAY...
GUESS WHAT, LINDA? I FOUND THIS FAB SUPERMAN FIGURINE ON MY MOTORCYCLE, WITH A NOTE SAYING IT WAS A GIFT FROM SUPERGIRL! SHE'S A COOL CHICK, AFTER ALL!
I'M GLAD TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, LEON!
HE'LL NEVER KNOW HOW GLAD!
12
The End

MAY, 1968

## Beethoven, The Bomb

The JU88 was the Luftwaffe's most versatile weapon. It was a fighter or a bomber... and under the code name, "Beethoven", it became the world's first guided missile. The JU88 was loaded with a 5-ton charge and guided to target by another airplane with radio control. The explosion could penetrate 60 feet of concrete...! or demolish an Allied ship. Revell now has an authentic model of this German killer. It looks as realistic and devastating as the original version. Less than $1.30.

For a catalog of 200 realistic Revell models, send 25c to: Revell, Inc., 4246 Glencoe Ave., Venice, California 90291

Revell

Model of the Month

Dear Editor:

ACTION No. 362 was great! I just hope the conclusion of the story will be as great—but I'm sure it will be. When I found the issue in my mailbox, I rushed to read it. I'm glad to see another continued story. Keep up the beautiful super-work.

—Rob Barres, Lexington, Mass.

(You'll finally be able to judge the conclusion of the story in the next issue. Bet you never thought you'd have to wait this long for it, did you? But this time we had such a blockbuster of a tale, we couldn't hold it down to two or three issues.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

"The Return of the Parasite" was superb. But if the Parasite were really smart, he would absorb the energy given off by Green Kryptonite. Then he could kill Superman without absorbing his power. How does that grab you?

—Fred Steinberg, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(Okay—but don't forget that the Parasite's main objective was to become as powerful as Superman by absorbing his strength. Of course, now that he has accomplished something close to that goal, it's possible he'll try your idea the next time he clashes with the Man of Steel. —Ed.)

Dear Editor:

After re-reading ACTION No. 161, I had to write and ask to see Linda (Supergirl) Danvers compete in the next Winter Olympics. Just seeing how beautifully she makes a figure 8 on the ice, I'm sure she could easily win the figure-skating championship.

—Rosemary Frome, Woodside, N.Y.

(We don't doubt that she could have beaten Peggy Fleming. But she'd have had to use her super-powers to do it —and that just wouldn't have been fair, would it?—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

I always thought that Supergirl's father was named Zor-El. But in ADVENTURE you call Supergirl Kara Zor-El. If Zor-El was her last name, her father would be Zor-El Zor-El, wouldn't he?

—Phil Lumsden, Darien, Conn.

(No! On Krypton, the girls frequently took as last names their fathers' full names. For instance, when he went back in time to Krypton before it exploded, Superman met a girl named Lyla Lerrol. She was, therefore, the daughter of Ler-Rol.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

Many years ago, Edgar Cayce predicted that Atlantis would begin rising, in the Sargasso Sea, in 1968 or '69. I found this in the book, "Edgar Cayce, the Sleeping Prophet," by Jess Stearn. Anyway, if Atlantis does rise, will the Atlantis of Lori the mermaid rise, too? Many of Mr. Cayce's predictions have already come true. By the way, the book also mentions another sunken continent, Lemuria. Maybe you could give us a story about this—hmm?

—David B. Fyke, Goodlettsville, Tenn.

(*If* Atlantis rises, Lori could be left high and dry. But as for Lemuria, there are *no* ancient traditions about such a continent. In fact, the name was dreamed up by an English zoologist, Philip L. Sclater, toward the end of the 19th century. He applied it to a continent or land bridge which some scientists believed existed once in the Indian Ocean, and connected Africa, India and Madagascar, in all of which places lemurs—small, monkey-like creatures—are found. Few scientists now believe Lemuria existed. But some mystics adopted the hypothetical continent and transferred it to the Pacific.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

I would like to know what effects Jewel Kryptonite and White Kryptonite have on Superman.

—Buster Phillips, Houston, Tex.

(Neither normally has any effect on him. But we have a surprising revelation concerning one of the variations of Kryptonite—coming up in the next issue.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

If the people of the bottle-city of Kandor are invulnerable outside their bottle, on Earth, why don't they just stay outside? Even though they're mighty small, they can't be hurt if they're stepped on.

—Tony DeFina, Hazleton, Pa

(What about the person who's doing the stepping? If he's barefoot, he could wind up with quite a bruise. And getting a rock in your shoe is nothing compared to getting an invulnerable Kandorian in there!—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

I've written you about 21 sextillion times. What do you do? Do you pick out the letters that smell good for your letter pages? Do you use mine as fuel for your fireplace? How can I possibly get one published?

—Tony Lucero, Roswell, N.M.

(Just be patient and keep plugging. It only took you 21 sextillion and one tries—if you counted right.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

In ACTION No. 361, the Parasite says, "Ever had a black eye, Superman? There's a first time for everything." Apparently, the Parasite has never read SUPERMAN No. 164 ("The Showdown between Luthor and Superman"). In this story, Luthor gives Superman a black eye (under a red sun, where he isn't super). However, I've never before seen Superman get *two* black eyes, as he did in the Parasite story. The comic was terrific.

—Marc Libowitz, Baltimore, Md.

(Nope, the Parasite *didn't* read that SUPERMAN ish. It's the good guys, like you, who are our fans.—Ed.)

Send all comments, on a postal card, to METROPOLIS MAILBAG, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Include Zip Code with your return address.

# DIRECT CURRENTS

Here's another batch of predictions of things to come . . . and we can guarantee that every one of our predictions will come true. This is the month that DC's new Western hero strides onto the scene . . . and the Hawk and the Dove get their own mag! Of course, there are plenty of other surprises lurking along the way, so suppose we cut the intro and get on with the prophecies . . .

What happens when a man gets his fill of war and bloodshed . . . up to here? And what happens when that man is none other than SGT. ROCK of EASY COMPANY? A man who was BORN with sergeant's stripes on his arm! That's what DOES happen in the **August** ish of **OUR ARMY AT WAR. No. 196!** And when you get your mitts on it, you'll read a storm that'll ROCK you back on your heels in a way you'll never forget! So better latch onto the issue the minute you spot it . . . it hits newsstands everywhere on June 4!

Who—or WHAT—was the mysterious THING that plucked human victims off the earth—out of the air—and from the sea? How could the World's SMALLEST Super-Hero hope to overcome the BIGGEST menace that ever threatened this planet? The action-packed answers may be found in "SINISTER STOPOVER . . . EARTH"—in the **September** issue of **THE ATOM, No. 38,** on sale June 4! The hero may be small, but the thrills are big in this latest ATOMic epic! You are strongly urged not to miss it!

One by one, attempts are made on the lives of the members of the **SECRET SIX!** Is one of them out to get himself off the hook . . . and out of the clutches of their mysterious leader, MOCKINGBIRD . . . by systematically KILLING OFF all the others . . . so he'll be SURE "TO KILL A MOCKING BIRD"? It takes brains, determination, and just plain guts to solve this one! One slip and we'll have to subtract a few SECRETS from the title! The action awaits in the **September issue, No. 3,** on the stands June 4!

**THE FLASH**—a helpless prisoner of a war baron! And on the way to rescue him—BARRY ALLEN! But BARRY is the FLASH! And to make matters MORE mystifyingly menacing, an INHUMAN army of INVULNERABLE warriors has begun a jet-propelled attack on Japan! Better be on the scene for the stupendously spectacular "ATTACK OF THE SAMUROIDS," in the August issue of the SCARLET SPEEDSTER'S magazine, **No. 183!** You'll find it on sale everywhere **June 6** (well—slightly later in Calcutta and Singapore).